

REMARKS

The foregoing amendment and remarks which follow are responsive to the Office Action mailed August 31, 2007 in relation to the above-identified patent application.

Summary of the Office Action - Election/Restriction

In the Office Action mailed August 31, 2007, the Examiner formally issued a restriction requirement indicating that the application contains claims directed to two allegedly patentably distinct inventions, namely, Inventions I and II.

Invention I is indicated by the Examiner as being directed toward a “pressure measuring apparatus” and is covered by Claims 1, 6, 8, 11, 16 and 18. Invention II was indicated by the Examiner as being directed toward a “process for monitoring the amount of pressure exerted between anatomical structure” and being covered by Claims 21-29. The Examiner further indicates that “because these inventions are independent or distinct...restriction for examination purposes is proper.” (Office Action, Page 3)

In addition, the Examiner indicates that the application contains claims directed to two allegedly patentably distinct species. Specifically, the Examiner indicates that the species included Species B (“compressive foam”) depicted in Figures 3A-3B, and Species C (“air or fluid filled balloon”) drawn to Claims 27-29 and paragraphs 14 and 30 of the Specification. The Examiner requests election of a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. The Examiner further indicates that Claims 1, 11 and 21-26 are generic.

In consideration of the above-noted election of Invention I, Applicant hereby formally elects Species B drawn to Figs. 3A-3B for prosecution on the merits and elects to proceed with the prosecution of Claims 1, 6, 8, 11, 16 and 18 which Applicant submits are readable on Species B. Applicant makes this election without traverse.

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All remaining claims, namely Claims 21-29 are hereby withdrawn. Claims 2-5, 7, 9-10, 12-15, 17 and 19-20 were previously withdrawn in response to the Office Action issued on April 30, 2007.

Conclusion

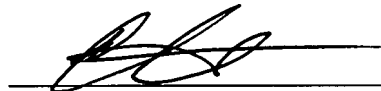
Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims of the present invention are not anticipated by the cited art and are believed to be in condition for allowance. Entry of the amendments and issuance of a Notice of Allowance is therefore respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any suggestions for expediting the allowance of the application or requires additional information or has any suggestions how to resolve any outstanding issues, please contact Applicant's representative at the telephone number listed below.

If any additional fee is required, please charge Deposit Account Number 19-4330.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 9/28/07

By:



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